

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/035,861

Applicant(s)

CHEN, HAI XING

Examiner

Suryaprabha Chunduru

Art Unit

1637

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 9/21/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 14-25 and 30.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying Indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
- ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

*Suryaprabha Chunduru*  
SURYAPRABHA CHUNDURU  
PATENT EXAMINER  
11/16/03

Suryaprabha Chunduru  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit: 1637

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. Applicants' response and amendment filed on September 21, 2006 is considered. Currently Claims 1-25 are pending. Claims 1, 14, 24 are amended. Claims 26-29 are canceled.
2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Yi Li, on November 16, 2006.

Please amend the claims as follows:

Cancel claims 1-13.

Amend claim 25 and add new claim 30 as follows:

The claims 25 and 30 should read as follows:

Claim 25. The method of claim 24, wherein said target nucleic acid fragments comprise DNA, RNA or PNA.

Claim 30 (New). The method of claim 14, wherein said target nucleic acid fragments comprise DNA, RNA or PNA.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 14-25, 30 are allowed.

The present invention is drawn to a method for sequentially detecting multiple target nucleic acid fragments in a test sample using a test column having multiple snares and at least of the said snares having at least two different single strand target capture DNA sequences specific for

different target regions of said test sample, sequentially adding probes to detect multiple target nucleic acid fragments in said sample. The closest prior art Muller et al. in view of Beattie et al. teach a linear array having plurality of snares and plurality of capture DNA sequences and detection of multiple target sequences in a test sample, however the art is silent with regard to at least one of said snares having at least two different single strand capture DNA sequences specific for different target nucleic acid sequences and sequential detection of each said different target nucleic acid sequences in said test sample. Thus the instant invention was not taught or obvious over the closest prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Suryaprabha Chunduru whose telephone number is 571-272-0783. The examiner can normally be reached on 8.30A.M. - 4.30P.M, Mon - Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gary Benzion can be reached on 571-272-0782. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Suryaprabha Chunduru  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1637

*Suryaprabha Chunduru*  
SURYAPRABHA CHUNDURU 4/16/06  
PATENT EXAMINER